HF Happenings 792

SDR workshop at the NARC on 5 May

The SDR Workshop at the National Amateur Radio Centre on 5 May will address antenna issues for the SARL RF Noise Monitoring Project. This is a joint SARL/AMSATSA project with special rates for members of both organisations. Thee Workshop on Saturday 5 May will start at 09:00 and there will be a report back on the SARL RF Noise Monitoring Project. Other subjects to be covered include how to automate the uploading of the data to the server, an introduction to GNU Radio by Anton Janovsky, ZR6AIC, and a discussion on the best antenna to use for the noise monitoring project with Vincent Harrison, ZS6BTY.

The cost will be R50 for SARL and AMSAT SA members and R100 for non-members. Registration details are on www.amsatsa.org.za. There will be no cash facilities at the workshop to handle cash. Please use EFT.

At the SARL National Convention held on 13 to 15 April, the SARL distributed a pamphlet on the RF Noise monitoring project. The pamphlet is now available for download from the SARL home page at www.sarl.org.za.

DXCC News

ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, reports that the current 4B4B DXpedition to Revillagigedo has been approved for DXCC credit.

Latest edition of 'The 5 MHz Newsletter' now available for download

The latest edition (No 20 – Spring 2018) of The 5 MHz Newsletter is now available for free pdf download from the 'External Links' section of the Wikipedia 60 m Band page at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/60-meter_band or the RSGB 5 MHz page at http://rsgb.org/main/operating/band-plans/hf/5mhz/

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

April
1 to 7 – Pesach
2 – Family Day; World Autism Awareness Day
5 – SARL 80 m QSO Party
7 – RaDAR Challenge; United Nations World Health Day
7 and 8 – SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest
10 – Provincial Schools open
12 – International Day for Human Space Flight; closing date for 80 m QSO logs
13 - *Friggatriskaidekaphobia*
13 to 15 – SARL National Convention, Pretoria
14 – closing date for RaDAR logs
16 – closing date for VHF/UHF digital logs
18 – World Amateur Radio Day
21 – Autumn QRP contest
22 – ZS4 Sprint; May RAE registration closes; Earth Day
24 – closing date for May Radio ZS
27 – Freedom Day
28 – Cape Town ARC meeting; closing date for QRP logs
30 – closing date for ZS4 logs

May
1 - Worker's Day
3 - World Press Freedom Day
5 - SDR Workshop at the NARC
5 and 6 - AWA Valve QSO Party
8 - Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War
10 - Ascension Day
12 - World Migratory Bird Day
13 - Mother's Day
15 - International Day of Families
16 - Start of Ramadan
19 - May RAE (10:00 to 13:00 CAT) and AMSATSA Space Symposium
20 - ZS3 Sprint
21 - Closing date for AWA Valve QSO Party logs
24 - Closing date for June Radio ZS
25 - Cape Town ARC meeting
25 and 26 - CQ WPX CW contest; Pretoria ARC rally communications at the Secunda SCC
27 - Closing date ZS3 Sprint logs

This edition features news from 7 countries, SK tributes to UK 5 MHz stalwarts G3LEQ and G8DQZ, The Luxembourg 5 MHz beacon, LXØHF and a 60 m low-pass filter.

Cheers, Paul Gaskell, G4MWO Editor, The 5 MHz Newsletter

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award ([www.sarl.org.za/pub-lic/awards/awards.asp](www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp))

Niger, 5U. Torbjon, SM7RME, is expected to be active as 5U7R from Niamey. The length of his stay is not known. Activity will be during his spare time on various HF bands. QSL via SM7EHU.

Rwanda, 9X. Alan, 9X0TA is active until 31 December. He has been active on the HF bands using FT8. QSL via N4GNR.

Botswana, A2. David, VE7VR will be active as A25VR between 24 May and 3 June. Activity on 40, 30 and 20 metres. QSL via home call.

Malawi, 7Q. Arnold, WB6OJB will be active as 7Q7JK between 20 and 25 July. Activity from 40 to 10 metres using SSB. QSL via home call, direct.

Rwanda, 9X. The Italian DXpedition Team is planning to be active from Rwanda late September and early October. More to follow.

7Q7EI QSLS. David, EI9FBB, informs that the 7Q7EI team has completed the QSL design from their recent 7Q7EI DXpedition to Malawi. These are being printed right now and they hope to begin mailing early next month. There are two separate style QSL cards for their operation. The Sponsors and OQRS directs will all receive a special double folding QSL card while any Bureau requests will receive a single QSL card. Both these designs will look great in any collection. To see how to request your QSL card, go to http://7q7ei.com/qsl-info. Remember, those who sent $20 and above will receive their QSL card sent directly to them... just send them your QSO details.

9Q5MRC, 9Q5MRC/P, G3MRC/9Q5 AND G3MRC/9U5. QSL Manager Phil Whitchurch, G3SWH and AD5YS, reports: "I am pleased to announce that I have transferred all of the old paper logs of the above callsigns to an electronic format and uploaded them to ClubLog and LoTW. There is also a log search on my own web site. Paper QSLs can be ordered via the URL below. As with any such manual transfer, transcription errors are possible. If you have a QSO that does not appear in the online log, please contact me and I will do a double check (and amend if necessary).

When Joe became a silent key in early May 2017 his RSGB membership lapsed. Consequently, please note that, following a decision by the RSGB QSL bureau not to process outgoing cards for non-members, paper QSLs for this station are ONLY available DIRECT with adequate return postage or via the OQRS facility on my site www.g3swh.org.uk.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies
CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Mozambique, C9. Vasily, R7AL, Vasily, RA1ZZ, Al, RZ3K and Vlad, RK8A will be active as C96RRC from Mozambique Island, IOTA AF-088, from 29 April to 3 May www.rsgbiota.org/info/search.php?q=af088. From 5 to 9 May they will be active from Inhaca Island AF-066 www.rsgbiota.org/info/search.php?q=af066. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via R7AL.

Seychelles, S7. Michael, VK4EF is active as S79LD from Mahe Island and La Digue Island, both IOTA AF-024, until 31 May. Activity is in his spare time on 80, 40, 20 and possibly 10 metres using SSB, JT65, FT8 and QRS CW. QSL direct to home call.

Reunion Island FR, Alain, F1FJR will be active as FR/F1FJR between 5 and 15 May. Operation from 80 to 10 metres using FT8. QSL via home call, direct or bureau.

Rodrigues Island, 3B9. A team with FR4NP, FR4PF, FR4PM, FR5CB and FR5FC will be operating as 3B9RUN from 11 to 16 May. Operation from 80 to 10 metres using FT8 and SSB. https://www.qrz.com/db/3B9RUN

Madeira, CT3. Tibor, OM3RM will be operating from Porto Moniz as CR3DX during the CQ WW WPX CW contest. Before and after the contest he will sign from 80 to 10 metres as CT9ABN from 19 to 29 May. QSL via OM2VL.

Sao Tome, S9. David, EB7DX will be operating in 'holiday-style' between 1 and 9 June as S9ZZ. Activity from 40 to 6 metres using mostly SSB, RTTY, FT8 and some CW. QSL via home call.

FOC 80TH Anniversary Challenge

Celebrating the 80th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators' Club (FOC), a month-long event will be held from 1 to 31 May featuring a large number or special 'FOC' suffix callsigns, many of them containing the number 80, from around the world.

Australia - VI6FOC80
Canada - VE2FOCW, VE3FOCW, VE5FOC and VE6FOC
Cyprus - 5B80FOC
Czech Republic - OL80FOC
Denmark - OZ80FOC
France - TM80FOC
Germany - DF80FOC, DJ80FOC, DK80FOC, DM80FOC and DP80FOC
Gibraltar - ZB2FOC
Greece - SX80FOC
Hungary - HA80FOC
India - VU8FOC
Italy - II7FOC and IR0FOC (Sardinia)
Netherlands - PA80FOC, PA80JLS, PF80FOC and PH80FOC

New Zealand - ZL1FOC
Poland - SP80FOC
Romania - YR80FOC
Russia R80FOC and RA/SD80FOC
Slovenia - S580FOC
South Africa - ZS9FOC
Sweden - SC80FOC, SF80FOC and SM80FOC
United Kingdom GB80FOC, GC4FOC, GH4FOC, GN4FOC, GP4FOC, GS4FOC, GT4FOC, GX4FOC and M0RSE
USA - K2FOC, K5FOC, K6FOC, K7FOC, KM4FOC, KT5FOC, N4FOC, N5FOC, W1FOC, W2FOC, W5FOC, W9FOC, WA5FOC and WF1OC
Zambia 9J80FOC

QSL for G4FOC and its regional variants (GM4FOC, etc), GB80FOC and M0RSE via G3SWH's OQRS. For all other special stations, please observe their own QSL policies by checking qrz.com or asking the operator over the air. The FOC 80th Anniversary Challenge will be run as a leader board on Club Log (see https://clublog.org/foc.php), and your ranking in the leader board will determine the award level you achieve. Detailed information can be found at www.g4foc.org/foc80.

LOTW

Operators from outside the US who are requesting an initial call sign certificate to establish a new Log-book of The World (LoTW) user account now may email the required documentation to LoTW-help@arrl.org. They must provide a copy of their Amateur Radio license or authorization, plus a copy of one other government-issued document showing the applicant's name and address (sensitive information may be blacked out). When the ARRL receives the documentation, applicants will receive a reply message containing their LoTW account password, with their callsign certificate attached. The ARRL does not retain any submitted documents, electronic or hard copy; these are destroyed after they have been reviewed.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 23 to 30 April 2018

SKCC Sprint	Participation: Worldwide
00:00 - 02:00 UTC 25 April	Awards: Worldwide
Geographic Focus: Worldwide	Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 27 April 2018
E-mail log summary to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/submit-display.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 April
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 27 April 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.per-luma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 25 April and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 26 April
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 28 April 2018
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html

UKEICC 80 m Contest
19:00 - 20:00 UTC 25 April
Geographic Focus: Europe
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op Connected - QRP, low or high; Single Op Unconnected - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: 4-Character grid square
QSO Points: 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 21:00 UTC 25 April 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://logs.ukeicc.com/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.ukeicc.com/which-contest/which-contest-ukeicc-80 m-contests-rules

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 26 April
Geographic Focus: United Kingdom
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: United Kingdom
Mode: RTTY, PSK
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 27 April 2018
Upload log at: http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/r80 mcc.shtml

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 27 April
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 29 April 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 27 April
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 29 April 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

10-10 International Spring Digital Contest
00:01 UTC 28 April to 23:59 UTC 29 April
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: Digital
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: Individual; Club; QRP
Max power: non-QRP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: 10-10 Member: Name, 10-10 number and state, province or country; Non-Member: Name, 0 and state, province or country
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a non-member; 2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 7 May 2018
E-mail logs to: tentencontest@ten-ten.org
Upload log at: http://www.hamclubs.info/scorer/
Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 3162 Covington Way, Lenoir, NC 28645, USA
Find rules at: http://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/qso-party-rules

SP DX RTTY Contest
12:00 UTC 28 April to 12:00 UTC 29 April
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; Novice; SWL
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W
Exchange: SP: RST and 1-letter province; Non-SP: RST and QSO no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with same country; 5 points per QSO with different country same continent; 10 points per QSO with different continent
Multipliers: Each SP province once per band; Each DXCC country once per band; Each continent once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total DXCC/province mults x continent mults
Submit logs by: 13 May 2018
E-mail logs to: sprtty@pzk.org.pl
Upload log at: http://www.pkrvg.org/spdxrtty_import.html
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.pkrvg.org/strona,spdxrttyen.html

Helvetia Contest
13:00 UTC 28 April to 12:59 UTC 29 April
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op High - CW, SSB or mixed; Single Op QRP Mixed; Multi-Op High - CW, SSB or mixed; SWL
Max operating hours: 18 with a maximum of two rest periods of any length
Exchange: HB: RS(T) and 2-letter canton; non-HB: RS(T) and serial no
QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with HB; 1 point per QSO with same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent
Multipliers: Each canton once per band; Each DXCC country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 7 May 2018
E-mail logs to: contest@uska.ch
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.uska.ch/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/02-HF_Contest_Rules_2017_English_20161107czf.pdf

Florida QSO Party
16:00 UTC 28 April to 01:59 UTC 29 April and 12:00 - 21:59 UTC 29 April
Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted - CW, phone or mixed - QRP,

low or high; Multi-Single - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Multi - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile Single Op - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile Single Op and Driver - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile Multi-Op - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; School- CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; SWL

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: FL: RS(T) and county; W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T) and DXCC prefix

Work stations: Once per band per mode per FL county

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO

Multipliers: FL Stations: Each state, VE province/territory, DXCC country, maritime region once per mode; Non-FL: Each county once per mode

Power: High: x 1, Low: x 2, QRP: x 3

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power mult

Submit logs by: 13 May 2018

E-mail logs to: logs@floridaqsoparty.org

Mail logs to: Florida QSO Party
c/o Ron Harps, K8NZ, 1997 Willow Glen Ln, Columbus, OH 43229-1550, USA

Find rules at: http://floridaqsoparty.org/rules/

BARTG Sprint 75
17:00 - 20:59 UTC 29 April
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: 75 Baud RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op Expert
Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W
Exchange: Serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: DXCC countries once regardless of band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once regardless of band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x continents
Submit logs by: 6 May 2018
Upload log at: http://bartg.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://bartg.org.uk/wp/bartg-sprint75-contests-2018/

Next Week's Contests

AGCW QRP/QRP Party, 13:00 - 19:00 UTC 1 May
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 2 May
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 2 May and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 3 May
NRAU 10 m Activity Contest, 17:00 - 18:00 UTC (CW) and 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (SSB) and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (FM) and 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 3 May (Dig)
SKCC Sprint Europe, 19:00 - 21:00 UTC 3 May
MIE 33 Contest, 23:00 UTC 3 May to 03:00 UTC 4 May
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 4 May
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 4 May
10-10 International Spring CW Contest, 00:01 UTC 5 May to 23:59 UTC 6 May
ARI International DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 5 May to 11:59 UTC 6 May
7th Call Area QSO Party, 13:00 UTC 5 May to 07:00 UTC 6 May
Indiana QSO Party, 15:00 UTC 5 May to 03:00 UTC 6 May
Delaware QSO Party, 17:00 UTC 5 May to 23:59 UTC 6 May
FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 5 May
New England QSO Party, 20:00 UTC 5 May to 05:00 UTC 6 May and 13:00 - 24:00 UTC 6 May
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 7 May
ARS Spartan Sprint 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 8 May

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter